



# The New Castle Crier

*The Official Newsletter of New Castle City*

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**New Castle Public Library offers many Online Services.**  
See back for more Info.



**Covid-19 Update: This update is to assure our residents we are functioning properly, and providing the basic services and protections expected by our residents during these unprecedented times. The Mayor, City Council President, City Administrator, Police Chief, Fire Chief and Municipal Services General Manager discuss and coordinate regularly.**



City staff, located at 220 Delaware Street will be working from home, with at least one person in the office daily. Call us at 302-322-

9801 with any questions concerning any services.

The City Public Works team continues their daily pick up of trash, yard waste and recycling using prescribed safety measures. You can help slow the spread of germs by wiping down the handles of your trash, yard waste or recycling bins after placing them near the curb for pickup.

Our city is taking steps to encourage "social and physical separation". We have closed Battery Park to non-resident visitors and fenced around playground equipment, closed basketball and tennis courts, and public bathrooms. Please abide by CDC guidelines regarding COVID-19.

New Castle City Police continue to patrol neighborhoods while responding to in-progress calls and emergency situations; the New Castle City Police would like to ensure our citizens that protecting and serving the public is their top priority.

The New Castle City Police ask our citizens for understanding as they try to protect themselves, as well as the public, from COVID-19, dispatchers will ask

essential questions regarding the health of the person(s) requiring police assistance and officers may ask you to exit your home and keep a safe distance while speaking to one another. Their headquarters is closed to the public and citizens are encouraged to call the non-emergency number, (302) 573-2800, if police assistance is needed.

MSC has been communicating with local entities and other utility providers and have reaffirmed all Mutual Aid agreements are in place. These agreements promote cooperation and assistance from other Delaware municipalities with electric power and water teams who are prepared to step in and help our community should we need backup.

MSC began team isolation of its staff to limit the risk of personnel becoming infected. Thorough and ongoing cleaning is taking place at all MSC locations and public exposure has been limited by performing functions on-line and over the telephone. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the MSC at 302-323-2330.

The Good Will Fire Company is in contact with Departments around the State of Delaware and affirming readiness plans. The GWFC, like the New Castle Police Department, asks for your understanding

in these challenging times. When calling for services related to health, expect to be asked questions from a safe distance as they seek to keep their team members healthy and on the job for you.

City leaders are monitoring the situation and conferring daily to address issues as they arise. Please check our City website and Facebook page frequently. Critical and time-sensitive information will be shared via automated phone calls through the MSC; see below if you need to sign up for these notifications. For more information, don't hesitate to call or email City or MSC staff, the Mayor or any Council member. We will do our best to answer questions and address your needs.

Together, we will manage through this public health challenge. We are asking that everyone respect the guidelines from the CDC, Governor Carney's office, and Emergency Declarations made by the Mayor. For more information, please call the Delaware Division of Public Health at 866-408-1899 or email at [DPHcall@delaware.gov](mailto:DPHcall@delaware.gov) Other helpful resources include [www.coronavirus.delaware.gov](http://www.coronavirus.delaware.gov) or [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus) for updated information on the COVID-19 virus.



**Don't Forget to Answer the Census!**



## CONTACT MSC IF YOU HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY COVID-19

The Municipal Services Commission (MSC) is working with customers affected by COVID-19. Late fees will be waived, disconnections are suspended and information regarding financial assistance is available. Please feel free to contact MSC's Customer Service Department at 302-323-2330 if you are having difficulty paying your electric and water bill.

In addition, to these measures the MSC has contributed funds to the New Castle Cares Fund at the Salvation Army in order to provide financial assistance to individuals who need assistance paying their electric and water bills. If you are able to assist your neighbors please send a contribution to the New Castle Cares Fund at The Salvation Army PO BOX 308 Wilmington, DE 19899 today!

**Stay Informed: The MSC asks if you are not receiving phone notifications through Tyler Notify please contact 302-323-2330 and provide a phone number for these notifications. Important messages from the City, MSC and Trustees are communicated via this service.**

*New Castle — The First Capital of the First State!*

The most picturesque and historic waterfront community on the East Coast!

## Trustees Educational Grant Fund

Application Packets are available Online at

[www.trusteesncc.org/grants](http://www.trusteesncc.org/grants)



The "Trustees of New Castle Common Educational Grant Fund" was established in 1983 for eligible residents of the City New Castle.

An applicant must be a senior in high school or a recent high school graduate who is entering freshman year in an accredited undergraduate college or university as a full-time student in the coming September.

The grants are awarded to **full-time residents** of the City of New Castle. High school seniors must provide a high school transcript and an acceptance letter from a college or university in order to be considered for the grant. If the applicant is a dependent, the parent must be a resident of the City of New Castle.

Funded applicants from previous years who continue to be a **student in good standing** are invited to reapply.

Application packets are available from the Trustees of New Castle Commons, 201 Delaware Street, New Castle or online at [www.trusteesncc.org/grants](http://www.trusteesncc.org/grants). Please call 322-2809 with any questions about the process or about residency in the City of New Castle.

**Please note the application and necessary information must be received by the Education**

## Public WiFi Spot

nccde\_public



Please practice social distancing by remaining in your vehicles

## Library Resources and Services During Covid-19

The Library may be closed, but they are still working hard to deliver service to you. Visit their website for links to sign up for a library card, get reference and account

help through Ask a Librarian, and use e-materials through Overdrive, Flipster, and Hoopla. Check their calendar for virtual programming by libraries throughout the state, and take advantage of language instruction through Transparent Language, and much more.

Go to [www.Nccde.org/Newcastle](http://www.Nccde.org/Newcastle) and click on Online Services. If you don't have internet access you can drive to the library to use our Parking Lot Hotspot (nccde\_public) while sitting in your car, using your own device. Please practice social distancing by staying in your car.

Visit their Facebook page for the most up to date information on what is happening at New Castle Public Library.

[www.facebook.com/NewCastleDEPublicLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/NewCastleDEPublicLibrary)

## City News

The next Regular City Council meeting is 7 p.m., Tues., May 12th via internet conferencing.

The April 14th Council Meeting took place online as a Zoom Meeting. Watch for more information on how to participate in City Meetings by phone or on your computer. If you do not have access to a computer call 322-9801 for instructions, phone numbers and links.



Street sweeping operations, scheduled to begin again in May, have been suspended to accommodate the number of residents required to work from home, and to remove the added stress of having to move vehicles.

**EVERYONE COUNTS!**  **CENSUS 2020**

The U.S. Census Bureau wants you to know that it has never been easier to respond to the Census on your own, whether online, over the phone or by mail—all without having to meet a census taker. They are encouraging everyone to respond online [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov)



## Trustee Election Suspended Until Further Notice

Due to the health risks posed by the Corona virus outbreak, and the recommendations of the State and Federal governments, the Trustee election scheduled for March 21, 2020 is suspended until further notice.

The Trustees' office will be closed until further notice. The election will resume when the threat passes and ample public notice will be provided ahead of time.